



EBOR GARDENS
Primary Academy

WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 4th April 2025 - Issue 27



A Message from Mrs Wathen and Mr Spink

Good afternoon everyone.

It's hard to believe two thirds of the academic year has already gone by. When we return to school after the Easter holidays, we will be in the Summer term. That brings with it lots of exciting things and (hopefully) some much nicer, sunny weather to enjoy when we take our learning outdoors.

This week, the children enjoyed taking part in the Decorate an Egg competition (winners on Facebook) and dancing away at the Easter Discos. We put lots of pictures on our social media pages for you to enjoy and see the wonderful things we get up to at Ebor Gardens.

We close today for (just over) two weeks - returning to school on Tuesday 22nd April 2025.

Have a wonderful couple of weeks to rest and recharge the batteries for an action packed Summer term.

N - 84%	RBT - 94%	RDO - 96%
1AD - 97%	1MM - 95%	2HW - 94%
2RK - 94%	3JH - 98%	3NB - 95%
4CS - 97%	4RM - 96%	5NP/LW - 98%
5HW - 91%	6FA - 100%	6LB - 96%

Whole School attendance this week is **95%.**

We are aiming for **96% or above.**

Biscuit Bears: 1AD & 6FA

Extra Play (97%+): 1AD, 3JH, 4CS, 5NP/LW & 6FA

Pizza Party (100%): 6FA

Class Half-term winners: 2HW & 6LB



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Please be sure to park very safely and sensibly around school at Breakfast Club, morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. On some occasions, the main gate has been blocked by parents/carers cars.

Parents/carers and visitors must not park in front of the main gate so that cars (including emergency service vehicles) can get in and out at all times.



Picking-up Your Child Early

If you need to pick your child up before the end of the day (for an appointment etc), please let the school office know in the morning so that they can have your children ready for you in the main office.



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DIARY DATES 2025

Friday 4th April 2025 – School closes for Easter

Tuesday 22nd April 2025 – School reopens for Summer 1

Wednesday 23rd April 2025 – Guide Dog visit to Reception

12th – 15th May 2025 – **Y6 SATs Assessments**

Wednesday 21st May 2025 – Yr 3 Trip to Cannon Hall Farm

Friday 23rd May 2025 – School closes for half-term

Monday 2nd June 2025 – School reopens for Summer 2

Thursday 5th June 2025 – Y5 Countryside Show Trip

23rd & 24th June 2025 – Y4 Residential Trip

7th – 9th July 2025 – Y6 Residential Trip



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NATASHA'S LAW

NATASHA'S LAW, WHICH CAME INTO EFFECT ON OCTOBER 1ST, 2021, REQUIRES SCHOOLS TO CLEARLY LABEL ALL PRE-PACKAGED FOOD SOLD/GIVEN OUT ON-SITE WITH A FULL LIST OF INGREDIENTS, EMPHASIZING THE 14 ALLERGENS, TO PROTECT STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR SCHOOLS?

SCHOOLS MUST ENSURE THAT ALL PRE-PACKAGED FOOD THEY SELL, SUCH AS SANDWICHES, SALADS, OR CAKES HAVE A FULL LIST OF INGREDIENTS AND THAT ALLERGENS ARE CLEARLY HIGHLIGHTED.

THIS MEANS THAT ANY FOOD GIVEN TO SCHOOL FOR BIRTHDAYS AND CELEBRATIONS MUST HAVE A FULL LIST OF INGREDIENTS (INCLUDING ALLERGENS) SO THAT THEY CAN BE SENT HOME FOR PARENTS TO DECIDE IF THEIR CHILD CAN HAVE THEM.

YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION FROM THE FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY AND [THE NATASHA ALLERGY RESEARCH FOUNDATION](#).



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

INSTAGRAM

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Instagram's design encourages prolonged use through endless scrolling of trending content and generating a fear of missing out (FOMO). Children can quickly lose track of time browsing posts from friends, influencers, and strangers, which may disrupt their day-to-day activities.

AI CHATBOT CONCERNS

Meta's AI, which is available on Instagram, allows users to chat with an in-app chatbot. While often helpful, it can blur boundaries for young users, who may ask for or read content that is inappropriate or see it as a real friend or confidant. Privacy issues also arise, as conversations may not be as secure or private as children assume.

RISKS OF GOING LIVE

The livestream feature allows real-time broadcasting to followers – or anyone, if the account is public. This increases the chance of unwanted contact from strangers and pressure to act in ways that gain attention, including engaging in inappropriate behaviour. Viewers may also post offensive or harmful comments during live sessions.

THREADS INTEGRATION

Threads is Instagram's sister app for public, text-based conversations. Posts from Threads appear in users' Instagram feeds and can lead children to view, share, and comment on public conversations with strangers. The content may not always be age-appropriate and can be misleading or false.

SCHEDULED MESSAGING

Instagram's newer ability to schedule direct messages means that children could receive messages late at night or early in the morning. This can disrupt their sleep or keep them preoccupied before the school day even begins.

EXCLUSION AND LOW SELF-WORTH

Feeling left out online can have a real emotional impact. Being left out of photos, receiving fewer likes, being unfollowed, or being ignored in chats and comments can leave children feeling excluded, which often hurts as much as in real life. There is a risk this can lead to reduced self-esteem and a sense of not belonging.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE INSTAGRAM'S SUPERVISION TOOLS

Instagram's built-in Family Centre lets parents monitor how much time their child spends on the app. Specialised 'teen accounts' are private by default and offer controls on who can message them. Make sure that children use their real age when registering their account to ensure they have these protections.

OPEN UP THE CONVERSATION

Talk regularly to the children in your care about what they enjoy on Instagram – and what makes them uncomfortable. Encourage honest chats about filters, body image, and online approval. Reassure them that they don't need to edit their appearance or chase 'likes' to feel valued.

SET BOUNDARIES FOR THREADS AND AI

Parental controls on Instagram also apply to Threads. These allow parents to monitor time spent in the app, check follower lists and adjust exposure to sensitive content. Discuss AI features, too, therefore helping children understand that chatbots aren't real people and should be used with care.

BE MEDIA-SAVVY WITH INFLUENCERS

Parents should follow a few of the influencers their child watches, so they can better understand the content they're seeing. Use this as a springboard to talk about the difference between genuine recommendations and paid promotions – and how online personalities can shape opinions and behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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